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No. 23.



A BRAZILIAN FAMILY AT HOME.

Arrival of a Stranger.

How many reflections present themselves to our minds, when we contemplate the interior of a dwelling, in a country of different customs, language and condition from our own, and see the people at their ordinary occupations! Every American who has seen other parts of the world, has realized that this is one of the most interesting of the scenes he has met with. There is sufficient reason for it. To us home is connected with all our enjoyments, recollections and hopes. It is the place where we obtain our first ideas, and exercises our first feelings, and in relation to which we lay all our plans, and exert all our energies in business. Take from us our homes, and what kind of preparation would there be for the duties of life; what opportunity would remain for becoming acquainted with the real characters of our fellow men, for ascertaining the nature of the human heart, either by witnessing its display in others,

or by feeling its exercise in ourselves? We, who have been brought up in the family, and amidst the greatest advantages which are to be found on earth, must necessarily lay a high value upon it. We also feel that we have an ability to judge of it, under the variety of arrangements and influences which is found in other lands, and among other kinds of people.

Here we have a lively picture of a Brazilian family, in one of those vast regions of sunshine and luxuriance, which occupy so large a portion of the old Portuguese settlements in South America. And what do we see? An aspect of ease and contentment, but an absence of several of those features which we, descendants of English Puritans and Scotch Presbyterians, French Hugonots and German Lutherans, not to enumerate other sons of civil and religious liberty, regard as indispensable to our dwelling places, to our homes.

The rude materials, implements and products of a saddle-maker, scattered on the floor, indicate the low state of the arts of life, well accordant with the absence of boards under foot, and the poor clothing, and degraded attitudes of the slave, and the want of work-boxes, writing desks, and especially of books. On the wall we see a crucifix, and by its side a picture of the Virgin Mary; and these alone would furnish explanation enough of the last mentioned deficiency. The finger of Rome is there; the finger of that hand which forges chains, kindles fagots, and screws up racks, while one book worth having remains among any people within her reach.

The man in his sombrero, or broad-brimmed hat, may play his guitar, the lady lounge in her hammock, and the children amuse themselves with toys, or as many parrots as they can catch in the overhanging trees: but woe be to them if they dare to stray over the bounds which Rome has set to confine the minds of her subjects.

Many a family, as quiet and harmless as this, has been overwhelmed with misery for a single attempt, made by one of its members, to exercise for a moment that freedom of action, speech or even thought, which we are trained to practice, both as a right and as a duty. The practice of Rome for many ages, and the decrees of the Council of Trent ever since its session, have required the worship of such figures as hang upon these walls, and abstinence from some of the plainest rights and duties of man, as essential parts of her combined system of religion and politics; and we need not expect to find either bibles or solid education, Christian knowledge or real civilization, in any of the families under her control.

A work on Brazil, of extraordinary interest and value, has just been published in Philadelphia, by the Rev. Mr. Kidder, Methodist missionary in that country, which we recommend to all our readers. For the want of room, we are unable to furnish them with many of the extracts which we should wish to give; but the following, which relate particularly to the different styles of building, and furniture, &c., in different parts of the country, are very appropriate to the print at the head of this article. We are happy to learn, from the same authentic source, that

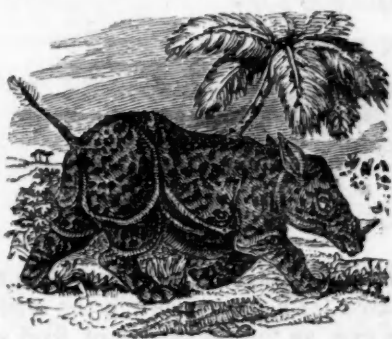
in his attempts to circulate the Scriptures, he found gratifying encouragement, in the eagerness of the people to read them, when they knew what they were, (a piece of knowledge rarely found in South America, Spain, Italy, &c.) and in the inability of their enemies to oppose them.

"*The Houses of Brazil*, whether constructed of earth or stone, are generally covered outside with plastering, and whitened. Their whiteness contrasts admirably with the red tiles of their roofs; and one of the principal recommendations is, the ease with which it can be replaced in case of having become dull or impaired.

"There is a considerable variety in the general plan of houses; but almost all are so constructed, as to surround an area, or open space within, which is specially useful in furnishing air to the sleeping apartments, and is rendered more indispensable by the custom of barring and bolting, with heavy inside shutters, all the doors that connect with the street.

"In cities the lower stories are seldom occupied by the family, but sometimes with a shop, and sometimes with a carriage house or stable. The more common apartments above are the parlor and dining room, between which there are almost invariably to be seen those designed for bed rooms. The furniture of the parlor varies in costliness, according to the degree of style maintained; but what we may always expect to find, is a cane-bottomed sofa at one extremity, and three or four chairs, arranged in precise parallel rows, extending from each end of it. In company the ladies are expected to occupy the sofa, and the gentlemen the chairs."

Mr. Kidder tells us that Brazil has hardly produced an original work, except pamphlets, and those published at the expense of the authors. The mass of reading consists of new French novels, in French, or translated and printed in Portuguese in Paris, sent out by every Havre ship, and sold at auction. Yet the people, as we before remarked, are eager to read the Bible when they comprehend what are its nature, origin and objects; and Mr. K. gives several interesting incidents illustrating this assertion. Whenever they possess it and read it, the aspect of their homes will be changed for the better, and the nation will be equally improved.



THE EYES OF ANIMALS,

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9.)

The Rhinoceros.

Whoever sees a rhinoceros in the act of tearing up the ground, and throwing the turf and sand into the air as he often does, with the short horn on his nose, will perceive that his eyes must be exposed to be injured more than those of most other animals, as, unlike man, they have no projecting brow. Whatever be the object he has in view in this operation, it appears to be a favorite exercise, and is frequently repeated. On examining the eye of this animal, therefore, the observer need not be surprised to find an express provision made, to guard against this peculiar exposure of that delicate and essential organ.



The Eye and third Eyelid of the Rhinoceros.

We have a single eyelid, furnished with its muscles; and their natural state while we are awake is tense, so that the eyelid is drawn up, while during sleep and drowsiness,

they are relaxed. Its peculiar construction we intend to describe hereafter, with the aid of a print. Quadrupeds, having no considerable projection of the brow over the eye, are furnished with an additional eyelid; and birds have three. The rhinoceros has three also; and the third is remarkably large, and sweeps backwards and forwards over the ball, clearing away whatever falls upon it, that might bedim the sight. The under part of this membrane is kept moist, with a fluid supplied by a very large gland. The print above shows the eyeball, or *haw*, lying upon it, and its long gland hanging downwards.

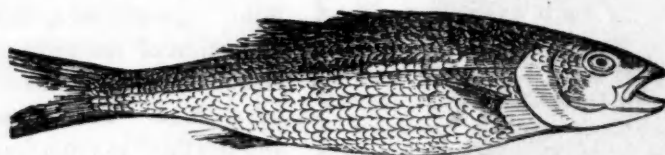
The under eyelid of the horse also bears the name of *haw*; and to give one evidence of the importance of all persons becoming acquainted with physiology, we may mention a case we knew, in which the owner of a good horse, which had a swelled *haw*, cut it off, supposing it to be an useless excrescence, and so inflicted an injury which he could not repair.

Buried Treasure.—We have been informed of a singular case of a "Removal of the Deposites" which happened in the neighboring town of Beverley. An aged lady of that place was desirous of possessing a lot of land which had been contracted for by two of her grandchildren, but who readily gave it up as it joined the old lady's farm. As the time approached for the payment she was reminded that if she wished to secure the purchase the money must be forthcoming. She requested her grandsons to take her to her farm house, which they did. She then called for a crowbar, and pointing to the side of the old chimney, she directed them to remove the bricks. The young men set themselves diligently to work, and on digging away the bricks and mortar, found a hoard containing *eleven hundred dollars* in hard money! The old lady then declared that she placed the money there and plastered it up with her own hands at the time of the Revolutionary war!—During the period of 61 years she retained the secret, proving beyond all cavil that some women *can* keep a secret, and a long time too.

It appears from this transaction that her object for hiding the money was more for security than income, as the simple interest on the sum buried would have amounted to \$3026, or, if she had let it accumulate at compound interest, she would have had the pretty little sum of over \$38,000, instead of 1,100.—[*Danvers Courier*.]

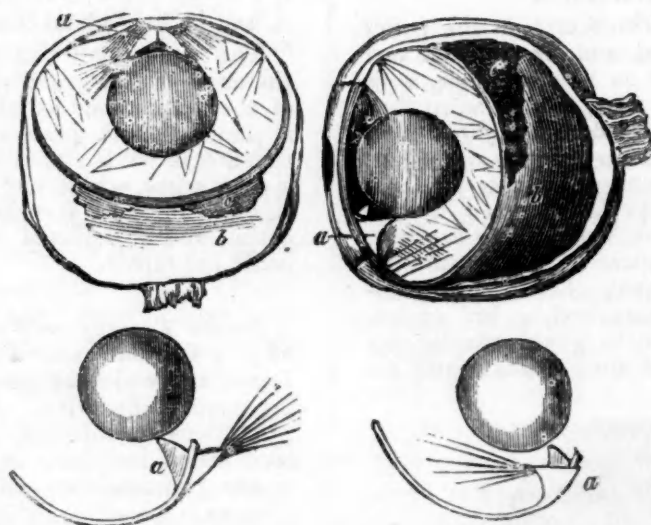
Remarkable.—In 1768 a man named Gillet, of Patchogue, L. I., cut his name on the shell of a Tortoise and let it go; and in 1844 the Tortoise so marked was found crawling over Gillet's grave.

THE EYES OF ANIMALS.

**The Striped Bass.**

The beautiful, well flavored, and wholesome fish, one of the greatest favorites on our tables, and the most valuable of all the varieties of the perch family with which

our fresh and salt waters abound, is as remarkable for a peculiarity in the structure of the eye, as for the excellent food which it yields to us.



THE ADJUSTING MUSCLE IN THE EYE OF THE STRIPED BASS.

The two upper figures here show the sections of the eye of this fish, with a triangular muscle, marked *A*, which moves the magnifier, or ball, backwards and forwards, to adapt the vision to objects at different distances. It is attached to the sheath of a nerve coming in at the back of the eye, and running along a division at the lower part of the retina. One of the angles is attached to the magnifier,

(see the two lower figures,) and another passes through a loop, and is inserted in the membranes of the vitreous humour. The contraction of the muscle draws the magnifier forward; and, when it relaxes, the spring of the membrane draws it back. These and many other particulars our readers may find in Dr. Wallis's little work.

Natural Springs of Gas—The Kanawha Salt Works.

The Charleston [Kanawha, Va.,] Republican has the following article with regard to a most curious phenomenon of the salt wells there:—

“It has been known to the public for some two years, that several extensive salt furnaces in the Kanawha salt region have been operated extensively by gas. The gas forcing up the water from the depth of a thousand or fifteen hundred feet, and then being collected in a barrel which serves as a gasometer, it is con-

veyed by a pipe to the furnace, furnishing all the heat necessary to carry on, at the same time, all the processes of the manufacture of salt to its completion in an establishment capable of a hundred barrels a day, and at night brilliantly lighting up the whole works—thus saving the expense of a steam engine to pump up the water, and all the fuel and lights. Last week in deepening one of the wells of Messrs. Dickenson and Shrewsbury, the augur struck a stream of gas at the depth of one thousand feet, that in quantity and force far surpasses anything of the kind

heretofore discovered here, or perhaps in the world. The auger was pressed up with such force as almost to overcome the exertions of the workmen to hold it down while they could unscrew the gas detachments. The way being cleared, the gas, having full play, sent a column of water one hundred feet, (and if tubed, would no doubt raise it to double that distance,) occasionally discharging stones, from the size of a musket ball, to that of a hen's egg, almost with the force of grape-shot from a piece of ordnance.

When we were there, on Thursday last, all hands were engaged in active efforts to get down a plug, to check the force of the gas, so as to enable them to insert the tube. They have, we learn, partially succeeded, and, in a few days, both the gas and water will be turned to good account. Serious apprehensions were very justly entertained of the destruction of the furnaces in the immediate neighborhood, as well as of the residence of Mr. Tompkins, should this immense body of gas take fire, which it was thought might occur from a steamboat passing on the river, so extensively was it diffused through the atmosphere. A strong guard is kept up night and day, to prevent such a catastrophe.—On Sunday the third well from the one we are speaking of took fire, and with the most active exertions was not extinguished till considerable damage was done to the works.

That our readers may have some idea of the extent of nature's laboratory, or gas manufactory on the Kanawha, we will say that gas enough issued from single well to light all the cities in the United States, and we think we might safely throw in London, Paris, St. Petersburg, and half a dozen other big cities of Europe.

Some entertain fears that both the gas and the salt water will shortly fail; but we incline to the opinion that the upper stratum, the outskirts, the suburbs only, of the treasures of salt and gas, as well as many a subterranean wonder, are just now being reached. No matter whose dominions down there may be encroached upon, whether those of Pluto or Æolus, our enterprising salt manufacturers are as determined to explore them, annex them, revel in their palaces, as the whigs say the annexationists are by and by to "revel in the halls of the Montezumas."

The Importance of Draining.—Of this kind of improvement, almost every farm in the country is more or less susceptible. But how should it be done, at what depth, and with what material? As to the depth, the young farmer who wishes to do his work well, will neither imitate nor rely too much on the practice of the district he comes from, or in which his own farm may happen to be situated. If so he will, in Ayrshire—by the advice of the wiseacres in that country—put in his drains only twenty inches, or two foot in depth; in Berkshire he will sink them to three feet; and in Sussex he may be carried along with the rising tide to put none in shallower than four feet. He will not trust, we say, wholly to example. He will say to himself rather, what is the object I have in view, and what implements have I to effect it?

In draining he has one leading, one master object, we may call it, to attend to. He has to deepen his soil, that the roots of his crops may descend farther—may draw their food from greater depths, and from a larger body of earth. The more completely he can effect this, the better will his work be done.

How deep will his crops send down their roots? In favorable circumstances his wheat and clover, even his turnips, will descend to a depth of three feet. His operations, then, would be in some degree perfect, if he could so open, and drain, and doctor his land, as to enable and induce the roots of his crops to go down so far as this.

But they will never, or rarely at least, descend lower than the level of the water in the bottom of his drains. He cannot, therefore, hope to make his soil available for the growth of his crops to a greater depth than that to which his drains descend. Three feet then, he will say, appears to be a reasonable depth for a perfect drain.

Again, drained land must be opened beneath by the subsoil plough, or by the fork, if the rains, roots and air are to descend, and the full benefits are to be derived from the drains. With our existing implements—especially with the fork—the soil may be stirred to a depth of twenty-six inches. The top of the drain, therefore, should be at least this depth under the surface; and this again brings the whole depth of a perfect drain to within a few inches of three feet, as before.

Selected.

A White Sulphur Spring of great medicinal virtues has been opened, about nine miles from Saratoga, N. Y., on Saratoga Lake.



Sea Flowers.

This is one of those singular animals which wear the appearance of plants; and that in so striking a degree, that it is not only natural to mistake them at first sight for subjects of the vegetable kingdom, but very difficult, to be convinced that such is the fact, even after a close examination. There are several varieties found in different seas. Our vessels of war visiting the Balearic Islands, on the coast of Spain, sometimes find their anchors dipping into water where these sea-flowers abound; but there, as well as elsewhere, the curious observer is often defeated in his attempts to procure specimens which might retain their beauty.

They spread a circular row of their films closely resembling certain flowers, from the top of a slender supporter, which seems a stem, although destitute of leaves and branches. While untouched but by the water, in which it grows, it stands like a flower on its stalk, (A,) slightly moved by the waves, and showing a considerable degree of beauty, the colors varying from reddish to yellow, and possessing a freshness of appearance, as if the rocks on which it stands were a congenial soil. But as soon as the sailor or traveller, unacquainted with its nature, extends a boat-hook or a noosed cord, so far as to reach the tempting object, its animal nature instantly displays itself. The seeming petals are folded up and drawn from sight; (C,) and sooner or later he learns that he has

been deceived by a singular little animated creature, as unlike a plant in its internal structure, and mode of subsistence, as it is like it in external form when viewed from a distance. It is a polypus, which inhabits a long, cylindrical tube, fastened to a rock, and extending perpendicularly upwards, to which it is attached, but from the top of which it can expand the broad, thin, filmy parts of which its upper extremity consists.

In the Island of Barbuda, in the West Indies, is a remarkable cavern, celebrated for its peculiar form, difficult access and the dangerous rush of waters which pour suddenly into it at particular times of weather and tide, as well as for its abundance of sea-flowers.

The Sea Flower Cavern.

"I accompanied a gay party of friends to that beautiful but dangerous place," said a gentleman who had visited the island; "and found that the warnings I had received were not unreasonable. A high, smooth and sloping rock must be descended, which dips into the sea to an unknown depth, and whose surface offers not a crag nor a twig to catch at, if your downward course should once become accelerated. A lady, who had expressed a firm resolution to make the descent, before obtaining a full view of the way, shut her eyes, and was carried down by some of her friends; but, on looking back from the bottom, became so faint that she was for a time unable to stand. And truly, the retrospect was appalling.

The cave, at the entrance of which we soon found ourselves, has but two apertures; the door, and a small, natural window in a distant part, through which a mild but agreeable light is admitted, sufficient to show the wild crags above and around us. Such a dark and cool retreat seemed peculiarly welcome, in a warm day and a tropical climate, after a laborious and dangerous walk; and the cavern floor, though at first indistinctly seen, seemed level and convenient for the feet. It presented tinges of different colors, in different parts, something like a flower garden seen in the twilight, or a meadow at sunset, streaked with clover blossoms and butter-cups. I might almost have believed that the floor had been spread with a rich carpet; but there were motions here and there, as in a field of grain mowed by a breeze.

"Look at the sea flowers!" exclaimed one of my friends; and I soon saw through the illusion. The floor was covered by the sea, which flowed freely in at some unseen crevices below; and was overgrown with sea flowers, of different colors and perhaps different species, which, clustering together in groups, formed spots of various forms and sizes, interrupted a little, here and there, by a few stepping stones, on which we afterwards walked about in all directions. What sea flowers were, I had yet to learn; and soon stood among a beautiful bed of them.

They were like large asters; and I stooped to cull a bouquet. But, what was my surprise! My finger had but just dipped into the water, when a large yellow flower which I had marked for my first prize, folded up its broad petals, and drew them into its stem, wholly out of sight. I started: but reached for one of its neighbors with a quicker motion, and that as suddenly disappeared. With the end of my cane I then struck at the stem or root of a third, and broke it; but when I took it up the beauty was gone—the petals were changed to a mere film.

This occupation was suddenly interrupted by a loud shout of alarm, and a rush of all the party to the open air. An experienced friend on the watch had heard the coming of one of those waves which inundate the cavern every few hours, and we saved ourselves only by a precipitate flight."

Danish East Indies.—It appears from the following paragraph, which we find in the London papers, that the King of Denmark has sold out his territories in the East Indies, after a possession of more than 200 years, to the English East India Company. These are the town of Serampore, on the river Hagh in the Bay of Bengal, now Calcutta, and the town and district of Tranquebar.

Serampore is a town of 13,000 inhabitants, well built in the European style, and it has been hitherto the residence of the Governor General of the Danish possessions of the Indies. It is pleasantly situated, and the necessities of life being cheap there, it is much resorted to by many English families, as a preferable residence to Calcutta.—Formerly, during the long wars between Great Britain and the French, as a neutral port, it enjoyed great advantages for commerce, and it became extremely rich. The advantages of this distinction it has for a long time been deprived of, and by the present transfer of its flag, it will of course be permanently lost, if there were before any prospects of its being revived. It has been for many years the principal seat of the Baptist Missionaries in the East, and of a great establishment for the printing of the scriptures in all the languages of the East. *Tranquebar* is situated on the coast of Coromandel, in the kingdom of Tanjore. It consists of a small territory, for which the Danes have paid, to the Rajah of Tantos, an annual rent of 2000 sicca rupees, from the year 1616. It is a town of 12,000 inhabitants—independently of those is a small surrounding territory, handsomely built, in the European style, with fine streets, and large houses two or three stories in height, ornamented with porticoes. It was the residence of a Governor who was subordinate to the Governor General at Serampore. The following is the account furnished by the English papers of the transfer of these possessions:

The Copenhagen papers state that his Majesty the King of Denmark has ratified in

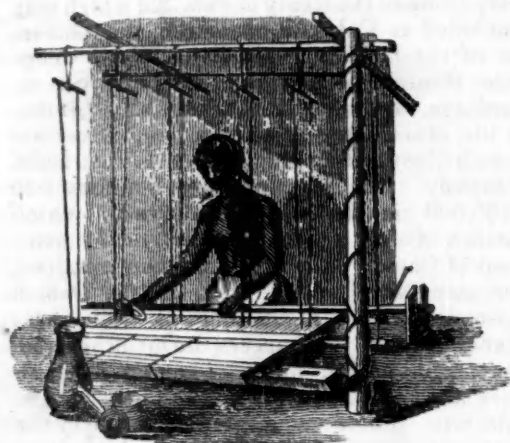
Privy Council the treaty of Feb. 22d which was concluded at Calcutta, between the Governor of the Danish possessions, State Councillor Hansen, on the one side, and Sir H. Hardinge, Governor General of British India, on the other, respecting the sale of certain Danish East India colonies to the East India Company. The purchase money amounts to 1,125,000 rix dollars. The treaty, which consists of nine articles relative to the treatment of Danish subjects, religious missions, commerce, &c., refers only to the Danish possessions on the continent of India, viz: Tranquebar and Serampore (the latter situated near Calcutta, and hitherto known in Denmark as Frederiksnagor) and a district in Balasore. There is no mention made in the treaty of the Nicobar Islands, which have been for a long time claimed by Denmark, but in which no Danish establishment at present exists. The treaty was also signed on the English side by Sir G. Pollock.

Bees.—To prevent bees from going off upon swarming, take the precaution, when they exhibit a disposition to swarm, to stop most of the holes by which they leave the hive, so as to force the swarm to be a good while coming out. The swarm is commonly made up of the young bees, many of which can scarcely fly; and as nothing can be done by the swarm till all are out of the hive but fly about in the air, by prolonging the time of their coming out, the feeble ones get tired, and their plan so frustrated that it is necessary for them to alight for rest, and rearrange for their journey. If the swarm be able to leave the old hive all at once, they care but little about alighting.—*Selected.*

Whaling Fleet.—Our whaling fleet, says the Newburyport Herald, now counts six hundred and twenty five vessels, the greater part of which are ships of four hundred tons burthen, amounting in all to two hundred thousand tons. The majority of these vessels cruise in the Pacific Ocean. Between fifteen and sixteen thousand men are required to man these vessels, half of whom go to sea for the first time as "green hands," and return after a voyage of fatigue and hazard transformed into sailors.

The value of the whale fleet is estimated at not less than twenty-five millions of dollars, extracted from the ocean by hard toil, exposure, and danger. The estimated quantity of oil imported into the United States is about four hundred thousand barrels, nearly one half of which is sperm oil.

Another Revolution attempted in Mexico.—The soldiers on duty at the palace pronounced for Federalism and took the President and some of the ministers prisoners, but other troops having attacked and defeated them on the part of the government, order was soon restored. Some 12 lives were lost and 18 were wounded.



An East Indian Weaver.

This is the simple loom on which the fine, delicate, admired and costly fabrics of the East are woven. How little ingenuity, labor or expence is laid out in its construction; and how destitute does it appear of all improvements beyond its original plan! The delicate fingers, care, perseverance, and practical skill of the natives, with such poor machinery as this, are able to excel the less patient and more time-saving manufacturers of Europe, although exertions have not been wanting to compete with and to outdo them.

Though many such looms as this have no better protection from the weather than the small and poor houses of the Hindoos, and many others are set up in the open air, where their operations are interrupted by rain, they produce the most expensive camel's-hair shawls, and other splendid articles of dress, which decorate the persons of the wealthy in Europe, and even in America, often to the serious injury of the mind and heart, of the usefulness and the real happiness of the wearer.

The Snake and the Squirrel.

On the 29th of May last, I was riding on a small road in the 12th district of Dooly county, near the Allapahaw, when I saw a common sized fox squirrel sticking to the side of a pine tree, some six or eight inches from the earth. When I got opposite the squirrel, I saw him move a little on the side of the tree. I rode some 20 or 30 yards past the squirrel, when the idea occurred to me that it might be charmed by a snake. I immediately turned back in the direction of the squirrel, and when I got within eight steps of the tree where the squirrel was, at once I heard a rattle-snake commence singing, ap-

parently under the feet of my animal. I clapt spurs and got off a few yards, stopped and looked back, and saw a very venomous-looking rattle-snake not more than four-and-a-half or five feet long. I immediately dismounted from my animal, and took up a lightwood limb that lay near by and gave the snake a pretty heavy blow, which caused him to sing loud and strong, and at the time I struck the snake the squirrel leaped from the tree, I think, about three feet, and it seemed to me the squirrel leaped higher than far. I gave the snake a second blow, and the squirrel leaped again, and so on, until I gave the snake a third blow, when the snake sung weaker, and the squirrel seemingly got weaker in the same proportion.

I then went to the tree, thinking to find the snake that had charmed the squirrel, but it was not there, nor any nearer than eight steps. I looked at the squirrel, could not see any thing the matter with it, but it appeared to be tired almost to death, panting and struggling for breath. I returned to the snake, and with the same limb I pecked his head soft. I again returned to the squirrel, and saw him in about one minute breathe his last. I took up the squirrel, and the blood had run out of his left nostril down the jaw and neck, and down the left fore leg, and off at the foot. I am certain that the squirrel was never hurt by me. After partly killing the snake, when I first went to the squirrel, I touched its thigh with the toe of my boot—it never moved nor even tried to get out of my way. I gave it as my opinion, that killing the snake was the cause of the squirrel's death. The snake was not larger around, I think, than the wrist of a large man. He had five rattles and a button.—*Savannah Georgian.*

Formation of Artificial Shell.—In such an investigation as the present, it is not unworthy of notice, that the production of shell is a natural operation, which can be precisely imitated artificially. Such an incrustation takes place on both the outside and inside of the wheel in a bleaching establishment in which cotton cloth is rinsed free of the lime employed in its purification. From the dressing employed by the weaver, the cloth obtains the animal matter, *gelatin*; this and the lime form the constituents of the incrustation, exactly as in natural shell. In the wheel employed at Catrine, in Ayrshire, where the phenomenon was first observed by the eye of science, it had required ten years to produce a coating the tenth of an inch in thickness. This incrustation has all the character of shell, displaying a highly polished surface, beautifully iridescent, and when broken, a foliated texture.—*Vestiges of Creation.*



The Owl.

Of the different varieties of this species of birds we have several in our country, and they are quite numerous, although they are but seldom seen. Their eyes are so formed that they see well in the dark, and very indistinctly in the light. It has been supposed by some that they shun the light because it gives pain to their organs of sight; but this is not probable, as, when exposed to it, they appear stupid, and sit still, without showing any symptoms of uneasiness.

There are many nocturnal animals in all the classes, viz: quadrupeds, birds, fishes, reptiles and insects; and their habits are either wholly or in part determined by the nature of their eyes. They are, however, in general, but imperfectly known, for the very obvious reason, that they are at rest while mankind are awake and abroad, and that the darkness or twilight which is congenial to them, is unfavorable to observations by us. Much of what we know of their habits is therefore due to the labors and self-denial of naturalists possessing uncommon devotion to science; to such as are willing to devote the hours of sleep as well as those of waking, to the study of nature.

The Owls belong to the first of the six orders of birds, viz: the birds of prey, or those which seize on animals for food. Like the others, they carry the marks by which they are all distinguishable, viz: strong, sharp and crooked bills and claws, the latter moveable like fingers. These are like the arms of a soldier, as they show to what army or regiment he belongs. These weapons, however,

indicate something more than the mere fact that the possessor of them takes animals for food. They show that his stomach is so formed as to digest meat, and that his frame is so constituted as to be best sustained by such nourishment, and, in general, that vegetable substances are not adapted to it.

One of the striking peculiarities of the owl, which can hardly fail to be noticed on close inspection, is the silky softness of its thick coat of plumage. The fibres of the feathers are thickly intermingled with long and soft threads, the use of which naturalists appear to have found difficulty in conjecturing. They are now supposed to be the cause of the perfect silence with which it performs its flight, so necessary, in a still night, when it pounces on its prey. The small nocturnal animals, which form much of the food of some of the owls, would hardly desire a better signal for escape, than the noise of its wings, if they were constructed like those of most other birds; but with the advantage they possess, they are usually well fed on field mice in the season, in many of their chosen resorts. These are said to be some of the chief attractions of the numerous owls, which are often observed on the south shore of Long Island.

Audubon, in his elegant, interesting and instructive volumes on American Ornithology, gives a curious account of the manner in which the wild turkey sometimes eludes the assaults of the larger owls, which are strong and bold enough to attack them in their roosting places. It is the practice of those sagacious birds, to keep one of their number as a sentinel, while they sit sleeping on their roosts in a forest tree. When an owl makes his appearance, a low murmur from the look-out wakens all the flock, and each stands expecting the charge of the stealthy foe. They do not offer to fly; but, as soon as the owl is seen gliding at his object, the marked fowl suddenly throws itself downwards without letting go its hold of the branch on which it roosts, hanging head downward, until the assailant has shot harmlessly by. She then recovers her position, while the disappointed marauder takes another stand, to choose and pounce upon another prey. All this, performed in the silence of midnight and the darkness of the forest, would hardly have been made known by a less enquiring naturalist than Audubon.

The following is an abridged scientific account of the Owl, from Cuvier. It belongs to the second family of the birds of prey, the Nocturnæ, or night birds. They are distinguished by a large head, great eyes directed forwards, surrounded by a circle of slender feathers, the anterior of which cover the cere of the beak, and the posterior the opening of the ear. Their enormous pupil permits the entrance of so many rays of light, that they are dazzled by that of day. Their cranium, which is thick, but formed of a light substance, is excavated by large sinuses, which communicate with the ear, and which probably assist in hearing; but the organs of flight are not very vigorous. Their fourchette (commonly called in fowls the breast-bone or merry-thought) is weak, and their flight, consequently, not powerful, this bone being a brace, to keep the wings apart.

They can direct their external toe either forwards or backwards. They fly chiefly by twilight and moonlight; and in the daytime will not fly when attacked, only stand erect, with ludicrous postures and gestures. Their food is wholly animal, chiefly mice and small birds. The latter often form small bands of volunteers from all quarters, when an owl is discovered, and wage against it a most harassing warfare.

They form but one genus, and naturalists divide them into subgenera, by their tufts, the size of their ears, the extent of the circle of feathers round the eye, and some other differences.

The horned owls have two tufts of feathers, which can be raised and depressed at pleasure, the couch of the ear extends in a semi-circle from the beak to the top of the head, with a membranous opening in front, and the feet and nails are covered with feathers. The common Owl is of this species, and is fawn-colored, with long brown spots on the body, confused lines on the back and wings, horns half the length of the head, and eight or nine bands on the tail.

An Important Distinction.

An essential difference between the Christian system and every false religion is very plainly and forcibly pointed out by Bishop Whateley, in an appendix to his volume of Six Essays, which has often been overlooked, and seldom received with all the distinctness which it deserves. In presenting it to our readers, we shall copy the language of

a reviewer of the Bishop's work, in the last number of the North British Review.

"The peculiarity alluded to is, that *the Christian Religion alone is without a priest*. Among the Jews a distinct order of men were set apart for a peculiar purpose, and the office of their priests was to perform religious services in the name, and on the behalf of the people. They offered sacrifices, and performed ceremonial rites, which they alone could duly discharge, standing in the place of mediators between God and the people. Among the pagans the priests were considered individuals to whom certain religious services were appropriated, for the benefit of the state, and more particularly for those individuals who availed themselves of their aid. But there is nothing of all this in the Christian dispensation. There is one Mediator and High Priest for all, through whom all have equal access to God. There are now no sacrifices to be offered up to the Deity, "Christ having, by one sacrifice, perfected forever them that are sanctified." There are no peculiar ceremonies to be performed exclusively by the priest, by which the Almighty may be rendered more propitious; no mysteries of which they alone have the knowledge. They administer indeed the sacraments, but they owe their efficacy not to any virtue in them, or in him that doth administer them; and are only beneficial by the blessing of God and the working of his Spirit, in those who by faith receive them.

"The ambiguities of language, and the erroneous practices of some of the Christian churches, have led to misconceptions on this subject. Certain ministers of religion were ordained by Christ and his apostles, and have continued down to the present day, and the name of "priest" has been applied to these, as to the ministers of every other religion, but their office is essentially different, and in the New Testament their names also are different: Episcopos and Presbyteros (from which the word *priest* is formed,) "overseer" or "elder," and "Hierous" for the priest of the Jewish or Pagan religion. To all the idle clamors which are afloat about priestcraft, the readiest answer is, that Christianity, *i. e.* unperverted Christianity, has no priestcraft, for this simple reason, that it has, in that sense of the words in which our opponents employ it, *no priest on earth*."

The following passage is in the author's own words. "The confounding together, then, through the ambiguity of language, two things thus essentially distinct, may well be expected to mislead, not only such as are ignorant of the distinction, but all who do not carefully attend to it, and keep it steadily in view."

In Canandaigua, a pleasant and public spirited practice prevails, of procuring the portraits of all the distinguished sons of that place, without distinction of sect or party, and placing them in the court house.—*Select*.

RUNNING AWAY FROM THE BRITISH.
A Grandmother's recollections of the Revolution. By an Officer's Widow.

(CONTINUED.)

At last, a recruiting officer made his appearance in Ridgefield, and almost all the bonnets but mine, were put in order for the occasion." I suppose, said Agnes, "you were fearful of exciting grandfather's jealousy." "No, my dear; I was not afraid of that, but had no wish to attract the attention of any other man." We found Lieutenant Delano quite an acquisition to our small circle; though not in the same regiment with our friends, he knew them all, and was acquainted with the engagement between Captain Talbot and myself; so that he could visit us frequently, without any danger of misconception.

One afternoon, during the summer succeeding our removal, I was sitting alone, reading, my mother having taken the children out to walk; when a young man belonging to the village, dressed in his Sunday suit, and new felt hat, walked into the room. When he had got as near to the centre as possible, he stopped;—took off his hat; bowed so low that it touched the floor, and then, with the manner of a school-boy on exhibition day, 'speaking his piece,' he said,—“you are hereby invited to attend a wedding to-morrow afternoon, at one o'clock, at Ozias Fippeny's, and Mister Leftenant, David Delano, Esquire, is appointed to be your *spark*.” Another low bow, and exit Zaddock Sentiment.

At half-past twelve the next day, Leftenant Delano, in his 'regiments,' and I, in some of my long neglected city finery, commenced our walk to Ozias Fippeny's. We found nearly all the company assembled; but as the bride had not yet made her appearance, in order to save time, the young people had commenced dancing. They had not finished their second jig, when the bridegroom entered, (the very Zaddock, who had given me the invitation the day before,) leading in the blushing bride, Miss Content Fippeny. She was pretty, and modest in her appearance, and was dressed in white dimity trimmed with green worsted fringe." "Oh horrid!" said Mary. "Not horrid at all," replied Mrs. Z.—“Content had spun and wove her bridal dress herself; and therefore, justly, set a higher value on it, than if it had been bought at Ten Broek's, in William street; and his store then, stood as high as Stewart's, or Fountain's, in modern times. The ceremony was performed immediately after their entrance. As soon as it was over, mince pies baked in large earthen milk pans, cider in quantities to correspond, and doughnuts in large trays, were brought in. When the eating and drinking were over, the dancing was resumed, and after Lieutenant Delano had danced a *three reel* with the bride and myself, I took my departure, at-

tended by my "spark," leaving them in the midst of "Hunt the squirrel."

But these peaceful times were of short duration. Lieutenant Delano had returned to his regiment with his recruits, and we had passed a dull winter; but in the spring we were roused once more by the news that the British had landed at Compo Point, between Fairfield and Norwalk, and were on their march to Danbury, an adjoining town to Ridgefield, where there was a depot of military stores. There was no time to be lost! Dapple was accordingly once more put in requisition; though our arrangements were not exactly the same as before. He and a horse of my brother's, named Lexington, who was at home "on furlough," were harnessed into a Dutch waggon, which had strayed across the line, from the State of New York; and taking as many valuables with us as it would hold, the whole family, including Pete, who again mounted on the bed, set forth. We rode towards the south for a short distance, and then struck into the woods, pursuing the winding of a cart path, which led in a south-westerly direction, towards the New York boundary line.

We soon left the village far behind us, and the path became grassy, and hardly discernable. Occasionally, too, all the domestics would be obliged to leave the waggon, and remove large stones, or logs from the tracks, to prevent our overturning. After a time, which to me seemed very long, we reached a cleared spot on which stood the farm-house, where we proposed making at least a temporary stop. The building was large but unfinished; the farmer having neglected the advice of scripture, "not to build without counting the cost." The hearty welcome we received from him and his family, made us feel very indifferent to our accommodations; and it was a matter of little moment, that the stair-case looked extremely like a ladder, and that half the window sashes were filled up with shingles. I could not help being amused at the group assembled within, which consisted of the farmer, his wife, and three daughters; and several of their friends, and acquaintances, who living near the principal road, had, like us, sought refuge in this retired spot.

They were anxiously expecting the return of the farmer's son, who had gone off on the plough-horse, to reconnoitre from the top of a hill several miles distant; and they hoped he would bring some tidings of the enemy. From the conversation of his sister, we learned that he had married, a few months before, an heiress from Wilton, one of the neighboring towns; where she had now gone on a visit to her parents. She had, however, left her bridal finery behind her; about which they expressed great solicitude. "Now what if the *regulars* should find out that we have hid Eunice's yellow silk gown, down in Long Hollow! I'll be bound they'd be there quick enough," said Charity, the eld-

est daughter. "Yes," said Temperance, the second in age, for shortness called Tempy, "and you put her dark chintz into the churn with the *pairshin*,* did'nt you Charry?" "Oh dear suz, exclaimed Sophrony, the youngest, I wish my pillow-case of chain and filling was'nt there, too; I set as much by my yarn as Eunice does by her silk gowns. "I dare say you do," said Tempy; and began, rather archly, to hum the old tune, "How can I be married to-day, that have neither blankets nor sheets?"

At this moment a sound of lamentation was heard approaching the house, which startled us all. We hastened to those windows which were glazed, and were much relieved to see that it proceeded from a party just making their appearance from the woods, consisting of an elderly man, and his nine, tall daughters. They were exhausted with fatigue and alarm; having walked a good many miles, loaded with bags and butter-boxes filled with provisions, to escape from the British, of whose advance guard they had caught a distant glimpse, as they fled from their habitation, leaving their little all to the mercy of the invaders. They were received in the same kind manner with ourselves; and soon after, the farmer's son made his appearance. He did not seem to have unnecessarily exposed himself to danger, and could give no very definite account of the enemy; but he had been near enough to their line of march, to pick up a cracked fife, which had been thrown away; and we were constantly annoyed, during the remainder of our stay, by his attempts to play up the squeaking thing. The poor old man, who had arrived just before him, had not recovered from the effects of his alarm, and was too much agitated to keep quiet a moment; but was continually walking to and fro, in the large kitchen, where we were assembled. The floor was of loose boards, laid upon the timbers; and they would rise, and fall, and creak, and tremble, as he paced backwards and forwards; and when anything resembling a laugh, or the sound of the crazing fife met his ear, he would ring his hands and exclaim, "How can you make such a noise, when we are all on the borders of e-tar-ne-tye!"

After two or three days, spent in this uncomfortable manner, the young farmer made another exploring expedition, first to Long Hollow, where he ascertained the safety of the hidden treasures; and then a more distant one, to find out where the British were. He returned with the joyful news that the Continentals, or Militia, he did not know which, had driven off the Englishmen; and they were in full retreat for the coast. They had gone so far from us, that we could return to Ridgefield in safety, which we did the following day.

But we went with fear and trepidation.—We knew not what might have befallen our

neighbors, and acquaintances, during our brief absence. When we left the wood, and entered the open road, we found that it was thickly marked with the foot-prints of men and horses. Traces of war met our view continually; the wounded comrade left to encounter such treatment as the compassion of the inhabitants might afford; broken baggage; wagons abandoned; and implements of destruction thrown away, in a hasty retreat.

We rode on in silence, and entered our late peaceful home, in tears. Every room in the house had been occupied, by either the dead or the wounded. A redoubt had been thrown up across the road, on the top of a hill near our house; and there the hardest fighting took place. General Arnold, then considered a patriot, soon after an unmasked traitor, had a horse shot under him within sight of the windows; and very near us were thirty new made graves, where slept in silence the victims of this dreadful war.

Our first care was to set the domestic at work to remove the stains of blood, which shocked us in every apartment; and then, we hurried to fulfill the duties of humanity to the wounded survivors of both armies. My dear mother would often speak of it to me, as the greatest comfort she had, in the exasperated state of feeling then existing between whigs and tories, that, from having her dearest relatives in the American army, she could indulge her kind feelings towards the unfortunate of both parties, without subjecting her family to suspicion. You, my dear children, who have always lived in peace, cannot imagine our feelings: God grant that a state of war may never make you realize what they were.

A few days after our return, and just as our habits and thoughts were resuming their former channel, we were again agitated by the appearance, in our village, of a female stranger. She was evidently deranged, though slightly so; but the tale she told in hurried accents and in a startled manner, terrified us extremely. She spoke of her home on Long Island; its happy inmates and sweet seclusion—of its conflagration by the British troops—of her heroic brother's death, by the sword of the Hessians, and of her own fate, which made any death but suicide enviable. She had fled from the field of destruction and woe, bringing with her her father's *Bible*; which she would not allow any one to take from her, even for a moment. We tried to soothe her, and succeeded in a degree; but could not induce her to remain in the village. After many wanderings she took up her abode in a cave some miles distant, and, I have heard, lived there a great many years, with no companion but her *Bible*. How powerful is "the word of God," my dear girls, when it can afford consolation, and speak peace, not only to the broken heart, but to the distracted mind!

There was one circumstance of a rather

* *Pers-an*—the name of a particular kind of slik.

less melancholy nature than those I have mentioned, which was told us on our return. An old gentleman in the neighborhood, owned pictures of King George and Queen Charlotte, made of wax in a kind of relievo. As he was a staunch Whig at the commencement of the war, he turned their *faces to the wall*. He had been however, for a long time, bed-ridden and speechless; but, when the alarm was given that the British were approaching the town, and his family were in great consternation, he made signs for them to turn the faces of the pictures *out again*.

"But I must stop," said the old lady, for it is growing late. "O grandmother!" exclaimed Mary, "you are skipping all the *love* of the story, and I wish to know how Captain Talbot sped in his wooing." "He accompanied Henry to our retired home, continued Mrs. Talbot, whenever they could leave the regiment; and it was understood we were to be married as soon as the war was over. Peace was at length restored; and our friends hastened to Ridgfield, as soon as possible, to add to our happiness by their presence. We made a dinner party for them; and, though sadly puzzled to do it in style, yet we were too joyful to mind trifles. It must have been a real calamity, that could have clouded our countenances at such a time. Our frequent and hurried removals had caused some incongruities in our dinner apparatus: thus we had preserved our silver-handled knives and forks, while our salt cellars were the dried shells of the summer squash. We dined in the garden, in a long summer house, covered by grape and vine; and, for want of a dove and an olive leaf, as an emblem of *peace*, I was obliged to stuff a blue jay, and put a sprig of winter green in his bill, to place at the upper end of the arbor. "Rather a queer substitute!" whispered Agnes to Mary.

Soon after, we left Connecticut; my father having determined to take up his residence in New York. I had therefore the pleasure of seeing the British troops evacuate the city. I went, with quite a party of friends, civil, as well as military, to witness their departure, from the windows of the house which had been General Howe's headquarters, now No 1, Broadway. Every one present appeared to enjoy the scene highly, except a young lady, who had not left the city during its occupation by the enemy, and had been a great belle among the officers. As they marched past us to embark, she seemed to be taking leave of *beaux*, for the studied neglect of the American ones present shewed, that even a pretty face must, under such circumstances, be animated by *patriotism* to make it attractive.

"But I am getting sleepy, and will therefore just say, that I was married about a week after; that all the Army officers in New York were present at the wedding, including Colonel Murray; who, to show his esteem for my military relatives, gave away the bride; adding to his other congratula-

tions, when the ceremony was over, that there would no longer be any necessity for even females *running away from the British*."

Extracts from late London works.

An autograph of Shakspeare has recently been discovered on the vellum cover of a little Italian book of the sixteenth century, and has been the subject of dispute at Marlborough Street police-office, this week. The work is entitled "*I Quattro Libri della Filosofia Naturale*," by Giovan Saravia, published in 1565. Mr. Howard, a bookseller, recently purchased the volume, with several others, of a dealer in books living at Hoxton, for a few shillings; having detected the signature, which is very faint, on the cover. The discovery having been made, the book is now valued at 100*l.* or more. Mr. Howard placed it in the hands of Mr. Fletcher, the auctioneer, for sale; whereupon a Mr. Taylor claimed it as his property, declaring that it had been stolen from his library. He was not aware of the existence of the autograph on the cover of the volume, which he bought for sixpence fifty years ago. Mr. Alexander, the Hoxton bookseller, who sold it to Mr. Howard, said he bought it with others at an auction. Mr. Howard refused to yield up his prize; and as the matter had not been brought before the magistrate by way of summons, no decision was pronounced. At the suggestion, however, of Mr. Fletcher, the disputants, to avoid a lawsuit, agreed to divide the proceeds of the sale of the book.—*Spec.*

Canadian Winter Garments.—"The sojourner in Canada should be well armed against the cold by way of clothing. All the great-coats, box-coats, pilot-coats, taglionis, and wrappers of every kind that man ever wore, will avail not unless there be an under-casing of chamois leather. An invisible waistcoat with continuations to match of this impervious material are worth all the woollen materials that ever came from Manchester. A leathern casing worn over the under drapery will bid defiance to the keenest blast that ever chilled the North American traveller; and the usual winter garments of our own climate will suffice with the hidden precaution I have made mention of.

"The Canadians of high and low degree invariably adopt a fur or seal-skin cap for winter wear; but a stout beaver hat of an extra size, to admit of a strong lining throughout of the aforesaid chamois leather, will be found a more comfortable covering for the head-piece.

"To proceed to extremities—a word about the feet: the Indian moccasin is the lightest, warmest, and best protection; a large boot made of cloth with a sole of felt is a favorite adoption with some; but a moccasin over an easy boot is best of all."—*Mr. Telfres's Sportsman in Canada.*

David Roberts' beautiful sketches of the Temples, Pyramids, and sculptures of Egypt

and of Cairo, are now again exhibited at Mr. Hogarth's Gallery in the Haymarket; preparatory to the publication of the Egyptian portion of Mr. Roberts' great work.

It may suffice to say, that they comprise views of the temples of Karnak, Luxor, Philoe, Dendera, Edfou, Ibsamboul, and the Memnonium; the Pyramids, the Sphinx, the Memnon statues; and the mosques and bazaars of Cairo, taken from various points. The minute accuracy and delicate neatness of the outlines are admirable; but the great merit of these drawings consists in the perfect idea they convey of the vast magnitude and sublime grandeur of the stupendous relics of Egyptian art. In this respect they are unique: Mr. Roberts has done what no other artist has accomplished, though they may have tried.—*English Paper.*

London Peace Society.—Mr. Rigaud had labored in Holland, France, Belgium, Switzerland, and some of the bordering towns of Germany, and said several new auxiliary associations had been formed in different parts of the country. Copies of the society's works were presented to the Emperor of Russia and the king of Saxony, when visiting in this country, and also to the king of the French (accompanied by a memorial) on the occurrence of the wars in Morocco, Hayti, and Tahiti. The diet in Switzerland had been likewise memorialized, and a correspondence opened with the American Peace Society regarding President Polk's speech in reference to the Oregon territory.

German Manners.

From a Hot-water Cure sought out in Germany, in the summer of 1844. The Journal of a Patient. London, 1845.

A German Table d'Hôte.—"The carving department was admirably and promptly performed by the landlord, who rose from table when the joints or fowls came in. A thick wooden tray, a yard long, by half a yard broad, is placed upon the side-table; and upon this the joints, chickens, ducks, &c., are taken from the dishes by shanks, legs, or other convenient handles. Here they were sliced, chopped up most dexterously, shoveled into dishes, and sent round with surprising despatch, while all the time another current of dishes was passing from hand to hand amongst the guests themselves. Although the taking of meat from the dishes and putting it upon a board to be cut up, appears at first unseemingly, it is, in point of fact, cleanly enough, for the tray is beautifully white, and frequently changed. But the landlord's dexterity is a thing to see. Angelo himself could not slice an imaginary antagonist to pieces quicker than he does a fowl. 'Left cheek—right cheek—wrist—leg—chop, chop—and the fowl is in six parts, with both feet amputated. It is done at the rate of a chicken in five seconds, or twelve a minute.

Servants in Germany.—"The courtesy towards people of different ranks in this country is pleasing to see; servants are not bullied or spoken harshly to as with us; but the hotel waiters are of a higher caste, and are put in that situation as a kind of apprentice, to learn the science of inn-keeping; they have their quiet jokes with the company, as they hand the dishes, and press upon your notice what they have observed you like: 'Mais c'est bon ca Monsieur, goutez-en, c'est ce que vous aimez.'

The Douche Baths.—"The douche baths are excellent and well arranged here, at the emperor's bath house. The water is pumped up to a reservoir very much higher than the baths, and is guided down upon you with very considerable force, in a stream as large as your arm. Leaning down upon the steps upon your hands as low as possible, you receive the hot stream, like a shower of lead upon your neck and shoulders, from whence it is slowly guided down each arm and leg, and even upon the soles of the feet, while the man vigorously rubs where the spout is playing. When one side is done, you are turned, and the same process gone through on the other. I cannot say that it is agreeable, but the sensation afterwards is highly so; and good spirits invariably follow. The douches in the other bath-houses are very feeble in comparison with this; but even this one sinks into insignificance when compared with ice douches at some of the cold water establishments in this country. There the cold mountain stream comes upon you from a height of thirty-five feet in a stream the size of a cable."

However uncomplimentary, there is strict truth in his description of

Dress in Germany.—"No people are so unaristocratic in their appearance. The air *distingue* is not to be found here. The young are overdressed; the old slovens. The reverse of Brummel's maxim is their aim, and the more people turn to look after them, the better dressed would they fancy themselves. Their dress is without 'keeping' or consistency—long hair, exaggerated whiskers, ferocious moustaches, heaps of bad trinkets, and a new stock with a dirty shirt; a bad hat with a new coat; ill-cleaned boots with well-made trousers, and either no gloves at all or the brightest primrose. No people more servilely follow the fashion without regard to its suiting them. Because, just now, high-crowned, sugar-loaf hats with broad brims are the mode, everybody has them; and a more unbecoming head-dress, especially combined with a peaked beard and hair over the ears, it would be difficult to invent. I fear, too, that they sadly neglect Brummel's fundamental law—"Fine linen, plenty of it, and country washing."

From Aix he wandered to Wiesbaden, where the springs are still more various in taste and quality. To this we may hereafter refer.

JUVENILE DEPARTMENT.

METALS, No. 2—LEAD.

Lead has the principal metallic properties in great perfection, except hardness. It is so malleable that children often pound it out into plummets to rule with; when fresh cut or scratched it shines as bright as silver; it is so heavy that it is used for weights and scales, and for sinkers to fish-lines and nets; and it melts very easily, that is at a low temperature, or without a very hot fire.—We can see why the boys like this metal so much: they can do with it what they please. I mean that they can cut and bend and break and melt it very easily. Iron is very different, and so are zinc and copper, otherwise we should find pieces of them in almost every boy's pocket.

Lead Ores.—There are several different kinds; but the most common has the same color and lustre as pure lead, and is almost as heavy; but it breaks easily into fine grains. In short it has not the valuable metallic properties of tenacity, malleability and ductility; and cannot be used until it has been reduced or purified. This ore is called Galena, or, in chemical language, Sulphuret of lead, because it is made of sulphur and lead. Scientific terms are descriptive of the nature of their objects.

Lead becomes dull very soon in the air. The oxygen combines with it, and destroys the lustre, as well as the other metallic properties of the surface. While hot it oxidizes or rusts very fast. The boys know this who have melted lead. The dross forms fast over the fire. Into water it may be poured hot without being made dull. It then forms very curious figures. Children however should know the danger of the hot lead being thrown back into their faces by the steam, if it falls on a little water.

Shot are made by pouring hot lead through iron sieves from the top of a high building. When cooled they are poured down a slanting board, when the uneven ones and those that have got stuck together, roll along in a crooked direction, and fall off from the sides. The round ones roll straight to the bottom—like good children and good men too, who go right, and mind those who have a right to direct them, and come out right at the end.

A Boiler Burst.—The boiler in the steam paper mill in 26th street, North River, exploded one morning, and the chief and assistant engineers were slightly wounded, and one man was missing.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Boiling Potatoes.—Not one housekeeper out of ten knows how to boil potatoes properly. Here is an Irish method, the very best we know. Clean wash the potatoes and leave the skin on them, bring the water to a boil and throw them in. As soon as boiled soft enough for a fork to be easily thrust through them, dash some cold water into the pot, let the potatoes remain two or three minutes, and then pour off the water. This done, half remove the pot lid, and let the potatoes remain over a slow fire till the steam is evaporated, then peel and set them on the table in an open dish. Potatoes of good kind thus cooked will always be sweet, dry and mealy. A covered dish is bad for potatoes, as it keeps the steam in and makes them soft and watery.—*Selected.*

Dwellings for Work-people.—In consequence of the large number of laborers required at Birkenhead, Liverpool, it has been found necessary to provide them dwellings, and for this purpose the Birkenhead Dock Company are now engaged in a practical experiment likely to prove highly interesting to the working classes. The company have deemed it better economy to build large houses rather than cottages, and adopted a plan prepared by Mr. C. E. Lang, of London. The buildings now in progress, are divided into rows, each resembling what in Scotland is called a "land," a pile four stories high, and comprising several distinct houses, each having a common staircase communicating with the several "flats" or stories, each flat divided into two separate dwelling places. Each dwelling house contains a capacious and well managed "living room," two bed-rooms, and a yard. The former is lighted with gas, and the yard is a sort of scullery, comprising the sink, coal-hole, dust-hole, &c. The buildings are also accommodated at the top with a cistern containing a preparation for keeping it full, to the extent of 1000 gallons of water, to which a stream can be added at pleasure, carrying away the refuse into the sewer, into which the shaft runs below. Pipes from each yard are connected with the cistern, by which the various dwellings are supplied with water. The accommodation and comfort afforded by such dwellings cannot fail to prove beneficial to those for whose use these buildings are intended. [*London Times.*]

POETRY.

For the Amer. Penny Magazine.

Lines written on hearing a pastor of another denomination pray in a Sabbath School :

"Give us crowns and sceptres and kingdoms."

What sceptres do we need?
What kingdoms do we own?
At our command shall armies bleed,
Or dungeon'd captives groan?

Such realms as here we love,
Such sceptres as we sway
O'er many a sweet and gentle dove,
That owns our rules to-day.

Where child of friend or foe,
Or outcast's welcomed in;
Where richest truth we free bestow,
And war with nought but sin.

The flames we kindle burn
With fire from Heav'n above—
The only edicts we promulge
The laws of truth and love.

Oh give us from such thrones,
Such subjects to survey;
And may we wear at last the crowns
We offer them to-day!

NEVER GIVE UP.

Never give up! it is wiser and better
Always to hope than once to despair;
Fling off the load of Doubt's cankering fetter,
And break the dark spell of tyrannical care:

Never give up! or the burden may sink you—
Providence kindly has mingled the cup,
And, in all trials or troubles, bethink you,
The watchword of life must be, Never give up!

Never give up! there are chances and changes,

Helping the hopeful a hundred to one,
And through the chaos High Wisdom arranges

Ever success—if you'll only hope on;
Never give up! for the wisest is boldest,
Knowing that Providence mingles the cup,
And of all maxims the best, as the oldest,
Is the true watchword of, Never give up!

Never give up! though the grape shot may rattle,

Or the full thunder cloud over you burst,
Stand like a rock, and the storm or the battle
Little shall harm you, though doing their worst:

Never give up! if adversity presses,
Providence wisely has mingled the cup,
And the best counsel, in all your distresses,
Is the stout watchword of, NEVER GIVE UP!
—Selected.

FOREIGN LANGUAGES.

Latin Extract.

SELECTED FOR THE AMERICAN PENNY MAGAZINE.

The Death of Silius Italicus.

C. PLINIVS CANINIO SVO S.

Modo nuntiatus est Silius Italicus in Neapolitano suo inedia vitam finisse. Causa mortis, valetudo. Erat illi natus insanabilis clavus, cuius taedio ad mortem irrevocabili constantia decucurrit: usque ad supremum diem beatus et felix, nisi quod minorem e liberis duobus amisit, sed maiorem melioremque florentem, atque etiam consularem reliquit. Laeserat famam suam sub Nerone; credabatur sponte accusasse; sed in Vitellii amicitia sapienter se et comiter gesserat: ex proconsulatu Asiae gloriam reportaverat: maculem veteris industriae laudabili otio abluerat.—Fuit inter principes civitatis sine potentia, sine invidia. Salutabatur, colebatur, multumque in lectulo iacens, cubiculo semper non ex fortuna frequenti. Doctissimis sermonibus dies transigebat, quum a scribendo vacaret, scribebat carmina maiore cura quam ingenio, nonnunquam iudicia hominum recitationibus experiebatur.

FIRE.—About eleven o'clock at night, the basement of the Alms House was discovered to be on fire. The flames were extinguished by the exertions of the firemen. Nothing is known of the manner in which the fire originated.

✂ Editors receiving this paper in exchange, re-invited to reinsert the following advertisement:

THE AMERICAN PENNY MAGAZINE

AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER,

Edited by Theodore Dwight, Jr.

Is published weekly, at the office of the New York Express, No. 112 Broadway, at 3 cents a number, (16 pages large octavo,) or, to subscribers receiving it by mail, and paying in advance, \$1 a year. The postage is now *Free* for this city, Brooklyn, Harlem, Newark, and all other places within 30 miles; only *one cent* a copy for other parts of the State and other places within 100 miles; and 1 1-2 cents for other parts of the Union. Persons forwarding the money for five copies, will receive a sixth gratis. Editors known to have published this advertisement, with an editorial notice of the work, will be supplied with it for one year. By the quantity, \$2 a hundred. The work will form a volume of 832 pages annually.

✂ Postmasters are authorized to remit money without charge.

But, if more convenient, simply enclose a One Dollar Bill, without payment of postage, and the work will be sent for the year.

✂ We particularly request the public to remember that *no person* is authorized to receive money in advance for this paper, except the Editor or Publishers and an Agent in Ohio and the five south-western counties of Pennsylvania, who will show an attested certificate, signed by the Editor.